

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 01647 020631Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OES-06 PM-04
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 /076 W
-----020729 106733 /21

R 011438Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7463
INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS JIDDA 1647

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BENC, ECRE, SA, PK
SUBJECT: SAG OFFERS POWER PROJECT TO PAKISTAN

REF: JIDDA 1173

1. ONE OF THE FOUR SAUDI POWER PROJECTS CANCELLED EARLIER IN FEBRUARY WITH CHARGES OF INFLATED PRICES BY WESTERN BIDDERS (REFTEL) HAS BEEN OFFERED TO A PAKISTANI FIRM. DURING A RECENT VISIT TO PAKISTAN, SAG MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND ELECTRICITY AL-GOSAIBI, ANNOUNCED THAT AN UN-NAMED PAKISTANI FIRM WOULD SOON VISIT SAUDI ARABIA TO DRAW UP DETAILS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE \$50 MILLION AL-KHARJ POWER PROJECT.

2. SAUDI PRESS REPORTS STATE THAT AL-GOSAIBI FURTHER ADMONISHED WESTERN FIRMS FOR ARTIFICIALLY INFLATING BID PRICES ON SAUDI CONTRACTS AND STATED, "SAUDI-PAKISTANI COOPERATION IN THE KHARJ ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME WOULD PROVE AN IMPORTANT FACT, THAT NOT ONLY WESTERN COMPANIES COULD IMPLEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS." GOSAIBI STATED THAT PAKISTANI FRIENDS COULD IMPLEMENT THE KHARJ PROJECT FOR REASONABLE COSTS
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PAGE 02 JIDDA 01647 020631Z

AND FINISH IT AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. SAUDI PRESS REPORTS THAT AL GOSAIBI ALSO DISCUSSED WITH PAKISTANI OFFICIALS THE POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL JOINT PROJECTS IN SAUDI ARABIA.

3. COMMENT: THIS PROPOSED COOPERATIVE PROJECT WILL BE FIRST TEST OF SAG EFFORT TO LINE UP VIABLE ALTERNATIVES

TO WESTERN CONTRACTING COMPANIES, PARTICULARLY FROM
FRIENDLY LDCS. PAKISTANI EMBASSY OFFICER, JIDDA,
EXPRESSED BOTH PLEASURE AND SOME SURPRISE AT EVOLVING
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR PAKISTANI FIRMS IN SAUDI
ARABIA, AND SUGGESTED THAT SAUDI'S PROJECT "PIE" WAS
BIG ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE. QUESTION REMAINS WHETHER THE
LDC ALTERNATIVE WILL MATCH SAG EXPECTATIONS.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, ELECTRIC POWER
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770071-0424
Format: TEL
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: BENC, ECRE, SA, PK
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